

CHURCH HISTORY**Chapter 19 - The Church Declines in Power, AD 1294-1417**

1. *Pope Boniface VIII*
 - a. *A rapid decline began with the rule of Boniface VIII, because of the arrogance of the leadership of the church, and the general discontent of the secular leaders and the general populace; the crusade also gave rise to the sense of nationalism of many nations – siding with their kings rather than the popes. This was remarkable during the humiliation of Boniface by Frederick Barbossa in Anagni on 1177*
2. *A New Era*
 - a. *The States-General of France composed of the three estates of the realm - the nobles, the clergy, and the commons – declared that in civil matters the pope had no authority, and that the king had no superior but God.*
3. *The "Babylonian Captivity," 1309-1376*
 - a. *The period of residence of the popes in Avignon is known as the "Babylonian Captivity of the Papacy." During this period all the popes were Frenchmen.*
 - b. *King Philip the Fair of France had dealt the papacy a heavy blow*
 - c. *Germany had the right to elect the king. They declared that the German emperor derived all his powers through them from God and not from the pope.*
 - d. *In England in 1366 during the reign of Edward III, Parliament put an end to English vassalage to Rome*
 - e. *Many of the popes of the Babylonian Captivity led wicked lives.*
4. *The Great Schism, 1378 – 1417*
 - a. *There were two popes: one in Rome and one in Avignon - known as the Great Schism*
 - b. *In 1409 a council was held in Pisa to heal the Schism. The Council deposed both Popes, and elected Alexander V as the new pope. Neither of the deposed popes would give up his office. Now there were three popes*
 - c. *in 1417 the Council of Constance elected an Italian cardinal pope as Martin V. The other three popes, weary of the troublesome state of affairs, gave Martin their support*
 - d. *But the wounds which the papacy and the Church had suffered in consequence of the Babylonian Captivity and the Great Schism continued to throb for a long time.*